



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RICK PERRY
GOVERNOR

March 1, 2005

The Honorable Richard E. Greene
Regional Administrator, Region 6
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

RE: Gulfco Marine Maintenance Site in Freeport, Brazoria County, Texas

Dear Mayor Greene:

In December 2001, I referred the Gulfco Marine Maintenance Site in Freeport, Texas, to EPA for listing on the National Priorities List ("NPL"). It has come to my attention that, due to unusual circumstances, the present owner of this site was not afforded adequate notice of the imminent NPL listing nor was the present owner afforded a sufficient opportunity to address the site through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) Voluntary Cleanup Program ("VCP").

This property has significant potential for redevelopment, and the interested parties are committed to cleaning up the site immediately. Remediation through the VCP will allow faster cleanup by parties and, importantly, will afford liability protection to a future buyer when a VCP certificate of completion is obtained. The environmental, economic, and social benefits to the local area all weigh in favor of this approach.

In light of these circumstances, I respectfully request your concurrence to allow this site to be addressed pursuant to TCEQ's VCP. I am convinced this is the best course of action for this site, and TCEQ is amenable to this proposal. I further request that Region 6 work cooperatively with TCEQ to facilitate the site's entry into the VCP and subsequent referral to EPA for delisting from the NPL once the site's remediation is completed and no further action is required.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Perry". Below the signature, the name "Rick Perry" and the title "Governor" are printed in a standard font.

Rick Perry
Governor

RP:zcp

cc: Ms. Kathleen Hartnett White, Chairwoman, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Mr. Glenn Shankle, Executive Director, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

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